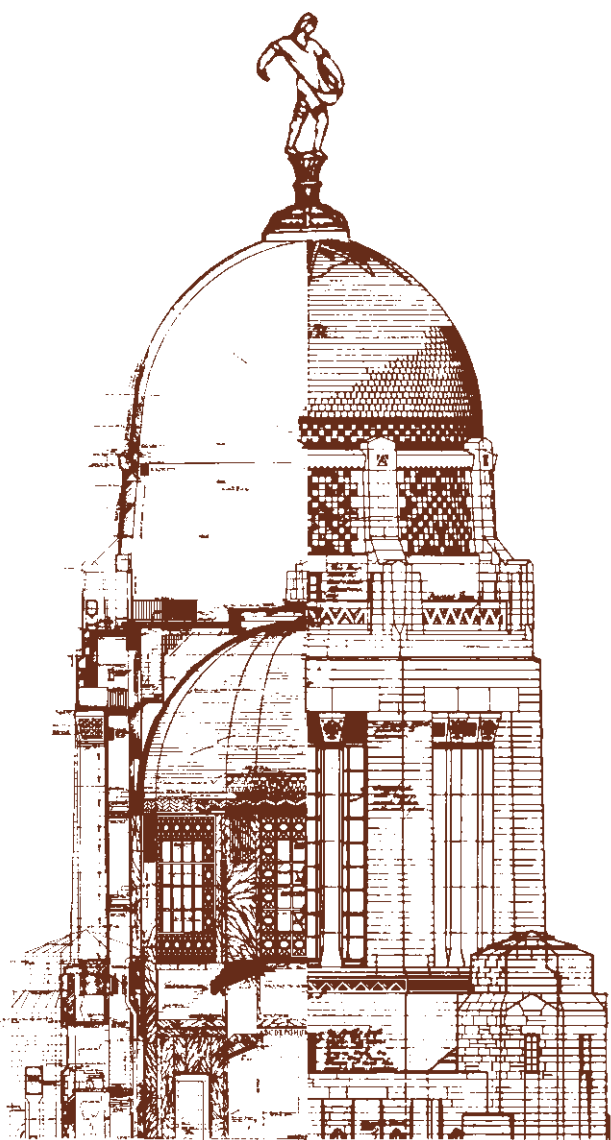


# THE NEBRASKA PROFESSIONAL

Newsletter of the Nebraska State  
Board of Engineers and Architects



The Nebraska State Capitol – Bertram Grosvenor Goodhue, Architect  
Courtesy of the Nebraska Capitol Archives

November, 2003

## *The Ethic of* **Stan the Man**

I have a 1940's picture of Stanley Frank Musial on my office wall. Why? Is it because he was a childhood hero? Or that he had a unique batting stance — like a boy looking around a corner? Perhaps because he was one of the great baseball players of all time, and his swing was the nearest thing to ballet I've ever understood?

All of the above and none of the above.

His picture is on my wall because he had, and has, character. He was, and is, an ethical person. He was competitive, but humble. He gave the fans their money's worth, but never played for big money. He played hard, but was never a jerk. He realized that without a client he was nothing.

My dictionary defines ethics as the rules or standards governing the conduct of the members of a profession. I have not been a proponent of the Board's involvement in matters pertaining to ethics. The reasoning has been that ethics is a professional matter between firms or between firms and their clients and that the State should not intrude into those relationships, but become involved only when a possible violation of law is indicated or the public is endangered by the action of an architect or engineer.

The Board of Engineers and Architects is very conscious of the importance of ethics in the professions. Though they understand their charge to be enforcement of the law, they recognize that the same traits drive people to be law-abiding and ethical. It is the confluence of good citizenship and good morals.

The Board is sponsoring a four-hour continuing education offering titled *What's My Ethical I.Q.?* on Friday, November 7 at the Scott Conference Center in Omaha. The presenter is Deborah Long, Ed.D. — a speaker of national prominence who makes a serious subject entertaining. The seminar will be video recorded for use around the State of Nebraska by professional groups for continuing education credits.

Stan Musial's profession was somewhat different than ours. He was not educated for it. He was not examined for it. He didn't need liability insurance to practice it. But he was ethical, and for that he ended up on my wall.

Charles G. Nelson Executive Director

## **Nebraska Board of Engineers and Architects**

### **Board Members**

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Albert C. Hamersky, AIA	Dale W. Sall, P.E.	Gloria Dougherty
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# Board Gets Proactive with “Customer” Service

## Board Perspective

by

Melinda E. Pearson, AIA



*The Board of Engineers and Architects is keenly interested in making the agency as responsive as possible to the relevant needs of the professional community and the general public*

The main duties of the Board of Engineers and Architects are fairly straightforward. It is our job to:

- Set policy for the agency.
- Review applications for licensure.
- Deal with disciplinary issues.

Within the purview of the first item — setting policy — there is great latitude for action. In recent times, the Board has been moving decidedly in the direction of pro-action. For several years we have been holding annual strategic planning retreats that focus on the broad goal of keeping the agency relevant, effective and responsive in its dealings with both the licensed professionals and the general public. This article outlines some of the current initiatives that have resulted from our strategic planning sessions.

### Management study

In 2002, we hired a management consultant — Ron Hein of North Star Group — to survey our “customers” regarding agency service and communication. (For the purpose of this project, “customers” was defined as engineers and architects, those wishing to become licensed and anyone else who has communication with our staff.) As a result of that study, the Board has adopted a policy of “continuous improvement in operational processes and in meeting the expectations of its customers.” Toward this end, the Board has charged the agency staff with the following tasks:

1. Establish a formal method for continuous improvement in daily operations.
2. Develop computer software to enable a central repository of data.
3. Develop a forms identification system, with instructions.

### Public awareness program

In 2002, the Board inaugurated a new public awareness effort with the creation and distribution of an informative brochure entitled *What You Need to Know About the Nebraska Engineers and Architects Act*. The brochure is aimed at helping the public reader determine when the services of a licensed professional are required. (Copies of the brochure are available free of charge from the Board office.)

This year the Board has hired Center Star, a communications firm, to help us upgrade our web site and make it the primary means of communication and interaction with the public. In addition, they will help us solve some ongoing communication concerns, including:

- public awareness of the A & E law.
- compliance with those regulations.
- support from some policy-makers across the state.
- opportunities to improve “customer” satisfaction.

### Continuing education

The Board is currently exploring various ways it might facilitate continuing education activities for licensees, with a special emphasis on continuing education possibilities for licensees who practice in lightly-populated areas. Elsewhere in this newsletter you will find notice of a *Seminar on Ethics* that the Board is hosting on November 7<sup>th</sup> in Omaha. Professionals attending

the seminar will receive 4 actual hours toward their continuing education requirement.

Of special note, the Board has arranged with the speaker for the session to be videotaped and the tapes made available for free checkout from the Board office. Professionals who view the entire videotape under the auspices of a local professional organization will be eligible to receive the 4 actual hours of continuing education.

The Board of Engineers and Architects is keenly interested in making the agency as responsive as possible to the relevant needs of the professional community and the general public. We believe the initiatives outlined above are a good start. However, we welcome input from all of our “customers.” If you have suggestions or comments to share, please send them to Charles G. Nelson, Executive Director at the Board office. He will bring your comments to the attention of the Board.

## Complaints/Actions

### Plan Stamping

03.04 A professional engineer and his client’s draftsman were alleged to have engaged in plan stamping and unlicensed practice. **Action:** The Board has retained counsel to pursue remedy.

### Incompetence

03.06 An architect was accused of incompetence and dereliction after he worked with a client for six months, allegedly did not provide a product, and issued a billing for professional services. **Action:** The issue was resolved by agreement of the parties.

### Inappropriate Seal

03.09 A professional engineer had sealed structural shop drawings with his mechanical seal. **Action:** The Board directed the P.E. to provide evidence of his qualifications to seal the drawings in question, which he has done.

### Improper Use of “Engineered”

03.10 A residential builder, who is a graduate engineer but not licensed, uses the term ‘Engineered Excellence’ on his project signs. **Action:** The builder was advised to make application for a Certificate of Authorization to practice engineering or, if that is not possible, to make changes to his sign.

### Improper Use of “Engineering”

03.11 A custom builder and home improvement specialist uses the word ‘Engineering’ in his corporate name. The Engineers and Architects Regulation Act prohibits the Secretary of State from registering such a name if the organization does not hold a certificate of authorization to practice engineering. **Action:** The Secretary of State has been asked to make the necessary correction.

### Incompetence

03.12 A professional engineer has been accused of incompetence, negligence, and possibly plan stamping in placing his seal on drawings of an exempt residential project. **Action:** The engineer has been invited to a board meeting for discussion of the matter.

### Unsealed Drawings

03.13 A drafting service has provided drawings for a three-story co-op office building without the benefit of architectural or engineering seals. Only single story commercial buildings of less than 5,000 square feet, housing less than 20 people, are exempted from the Engineers and Architects Regulation Act. **Action:** The President of the drafting business has been directed to identify the architect involved in the project.

# What Is Your Ethical IQ?

Ethics is a topic of increasing interest to all engineers and architects, whether they are in private practice or employed by a large manufacturing/design enterprise. These days, we ask:

- “Could what happened at Enron happen at my firm?”
- “What does the public think about the integrity of professionals?”
- “Are engineers and architects ethical? How ethically mature am I?”
- “How can our firms foster ethical development?”

To help you examine these and other questions, and earn continuing education credits at the same time, the Board of Engineers and Architects, in cooperation with the Nebraska Society of Professional Engineers and AIA Nebraska, is sponsoring a half-day workshop entitled What’s My Ethical IQ?

## **Workshop available on videotape**

This workshop is being presented live in Omaha on November 7th. By special arrangement with the presenter, Dr. Deborah H. Long, the workshop will also be made available on videotape for use by local organizations as a qualifying continuing education event.

Please see the blurb below for more information on the live presentation. If you are interested in utilizing the videotape at a future date, please contact the Board of Engineers and Architects at 402/471-2021.

## A Continuing Education Bargain

*Participants in this informative and entertaining half-day workshop will learn about:*

- ✓ *their ethical IQs.*
- ✓ *the latest research on professionals and ethics.*
- ✓ *how to resolve complex dilemmas.*
- ✓ *how to change how other professionals think about ethical problems.*
- ✓ *how to implement models of ethical decision making.*
- ✓ *how to foster ethical conduct.*

*\*Hours may be used to satisfy requirements for 2003, 2004 or 2005 (Carry-over).*

### *A Continuing Education Offering for Four Actual Hours of Credit\**

## **What’s My Ethical IQ?**

**By Deborah H. Long, Ed.D., DREI**

Friday, November 7, 2003, at 1:30 p.m.  
Scott Conference Center in Omaha

*Sponsored by  
The Nebraska Board of Engineers and Architects  
In Cooperation with  
AIA Nebraska and the Nebraska Society of Professional Engineers*

**Administered by  
Metro Community College**

**Fee: \$50**

**To register, call 1-800-228-9553**

# A Continuing Education Bargain — continued



Deborah H. Long

“What’s My Ethical IQ?” is an informative and entertaining half-day workshop that will help participants recognize issues and manage the decision process within the framework of their personal and professional ethical systems.

## About the workshop leader

A native of Chicago, Ms. Long earned her BS and MS degrees at the University of Illinois and also earned an Education Specialist degree with emphasis in adult education. In 1994, Ms. Long earned her Ed.S. in the field of educational leadership. Ms. Long is a veteran educator with interest, training, and expertise in the areas of business ethics, ethical decision making skills, and diversity. An ASME Distinguished Lecturer in ethics, Deborah has been certified as an ethics trainer by the Josephson Institute of Ethics.. She has facilitated workshops in ethics for many organizations and enterprises, including American Express; ASME; AT&T; BellSouth; CitiBank; Executive Women in Texas Government; National Association of State Boards of Accountancy; National Council of Interior Design; IIDA and ASID; and NCEES and ACEC.

## New Board Policies

The following policies have been established by the Board:

17.06.2003

### Architectural Engineering Licensure

Professional Engineers licensed on the basis of Architectural Engineering education, experience, and examination shall be designated Building Systems Engineers. They shall be considered qualified to design engineering systems commonly associated with buildings. They shall not practice architecture or convey the impression that they are licensed to practice architecture. The education requirement shall be an ABET accredited degree in Architectural Engineering. 6/20/2003

18.07.2003

### Engineering Examinations; Reexamination After Repetitious Failing

After a fourth or subsequent failure of either engineering examination, the candidate shall present the Board with evidence of having acquired additional relevant formal education before being reexamined. Such candidates shall be eligible for examination annually. 7/25/2003

## Licensure Updates

Through 9/30/2003: A-3324 to A-3357 • E-10804 to E-10945 • T-0230 to T-0248

### Licensure by Examination

**Architects:** Christopher S. Boshart; Glendale, CO • Paul E. Nelson; Omaha • Matthew L. Vande; Omaha.

**Engineers: Building Systems:** Kurt A. Anderson; Lincoln • Margaret A. Peil; Overland Park, KS. Civil: Samuel K. Amegatse; Kansas City, MO • Jacqueline S. Baird; Tecumseh • David A. Bellairs; Omaha • Devin L. Biesecker; Lincoln • Chad E. Blahak; Lincoln • Lonnie J. Burklund; Lincoln • James B. Chambers; Omaha • Don R. Day; Lincoln • Lamont R. Epp; Omaha • Brian J. Goebel; O’Fallon, MO • Erleen K. Hatfield; New York, NY • Christopher L. Johnson; Omaha • Scott L. Kearney; Omaha • Tory W. Kort; Grand Island • Christopher J. Logue; Bennington • Ryan T. Manning; Lincoln • Chad S. Packard; Lincoln • Karlton G. Place; Seward • Joseph S. Robinson; Norfolk • Angela M. Schmidt; Lincoln • Edward M. Schnackenberg; Amherst • Thomas G. Schuerman; Martell • Michael L. Seidl; Elkhorn • Steven B. Speth; Omaha • Leonard J. Swartz; Lincoln. **Electrical:** Kelly S. Carman; Council Bluffs, IA • Jason L. Fortik; Lin-



# Licensure Updates — continued

## Licensure by Examination

Continued

coln • Garrett A. Frecks; Kansas City, MO • Corry C. Jones; Lincoln • Scott R. Klawitter; Omaha • Stephen R. Miller; Omaha • Michael A. Swenson; Omaha • Cory E. Weale; Omaha • Michael R. Wheeler; Edgerton, KS. **Environmental:** Brian M. Bakke; Omaha • Michelle A. Chang; Omaha • Darren A. Jack; Lincoln. **Mechanical:** Pedro S. Ferrer; Omaha • John B. Knight; DeWitt • Mark B. Pojar; Omaha • Kevin L. Reiser; Omaha • Scott A. Schaub; Scottsbluff • John A. Thomazin; Columbus • Timothy J. Yager; Omaha.

## New Emeritus Members

**Architects:** None.

**Engineers:** None.

## Licensure by Comity

**Architects:** Merle S. Bachman; Omaha • Patrick G. Bles; Minneapolis, MN • Gerald W. Clark; Clarksville, TN • Tamara L. Eagle Bull; Lincoln • Eugene V. Ellis; Doraville, GA • James D. Epstein; Charlotte, NC • Patrick M. Gardner; Las Vegas, NV • Daniel G. Gartner; Grand Junction, CO • John P. Gering; New York, NY • Don Gile; Boise, ID • Michael C. L. Graft; Kansas City, MO • Gregory T. Haley; Minneapolis, MN • William Hartman; Detroit, MI • David C. Hudson; Baltimore, MD • William D. Hurley; Rogers, AR • Kyle A. Lombardo; Oklahoma City, OK • Gary A. Lundgren; Omaha • Michael G. Mayo; Manhattan, KS • Bruce E. McMurtrie; Media, PA • George Pappageorge; Chicago, IL • Ronald L. Peters; Mesa, AZ • Alan E. Reed; Baltimore, MD • Michael J. Remesi; Charlotte, NC • Tim A. Risley; Fort Smith, AR • Michael A. Schaadt; Westwood, KS • Brent W. Schulz; Omaha • J. William Scott; Kansas City, MO • J. Edward Seiber; Atlanta, GA • David M. Shelton; Olathe, KS • Hughes W. Thompson, Jr.; Atlanta, GA • Mark S. Wasescha; Minneapolis, MN • Rachel W. Zebrowski; Tulsa, OK.

**Engineers:** Agricultural: Bradley S. Woerner; Yankton, SD. Chemical: Scott L. Lindell; St. Paul, MN • S. Edward Mead; Omaha. Civil: David L. Arnold; Broken Arrow, OK • Lawrence R. Baker, Jr.; Downingtown, PA • Patrick J. Behling; Round Rock, TX • Christopher D. Bridges; Pensacola, FL • Matt W. Bryant; Salina, KS • Scott D. Campbell; Lewis Center, OH • Gary N. Cantrell; Denver, CO • Michael J. Cowan; Birmingham, AL • Clayton J. Dollerschell; Kansas City, MO • James M. Duffy; Sioux City, IA • David L. Duplantis; Thibodaux, LA • Rajesh K. Goyal; Burr Ridge, IL • William A. Griswold, Jr.; Charlotte, NC • Mariruth A. Gruis; Gardner, KS • Hani M. Hanna; Fenton, MO • Eric Heine; Yankton, SD • Robert R. Helmerick; Cheyenne, WY • Liang Hong; Columbus • Kenneth W. Horns; Minneapolis, MN • Scott E. Jacobs; Las Vegas, NV • Matthew J. Johnson; Omaha • James Jones; Littleton, CO • Allyn E. Kilsheimer; Washington, DC • Ong H. Lim; Sacramento, CA • Brad A. Lindstrom; Topeka, KS • Xuegang Liu; Chesterfield, MO • Daniel Mahrt; Omaha • Mitchell M. Messmer; Grand Island • Christopher E. Meyer; Topeka, KS • Kevin J. Michel; Omaha • David S. Millar; Greenwood Village, CO • Serge Parent; Iowa Falls, IA • Joseph M. Pearce; Maple Grove, MN • Mark B. Peters; Greenville, SC • Michael C. Piernicky; Omaha • Douglas K. Pineo; Cary, NC • Scott D. Reelfs; Council Bluffs, IA • Thomas J. Rieger; Sioux Falls, SD • John Ries; Elk Point, SD • Paul C. Rizzo; Monroeville, PA • Vince A. Roberts; Indianapolis, IN • Paul D. Schimnowski; Oakdale, MN • Yanak Shagalov; Minneapolis, MN • Kevin C. Skibiski; Ozark, MO • Clinton W. Smith; Amarillo, TX • Ronald W. Smith; Bristol, TN • Christian Soltermann; St. Paul, MN • Lyle D. Stafford; Merino, CO • Jeffrey Tibbitts; Geneva, IL • Douglas C. Wagner; Englewood, CO • John L. Wheaton; Cuyahoga Falls, OH • David J. White, III; St. Louis, MO • Dirk Wriedt; Warrenville, IL • William L. Zakely; Highlands Ranch, CO. Electrical: Dick W.

## Licensure by Comity

Continued

J. Deutscher; Hot Springs, SD • Charles C. Esslinger; Tucker, GA • Vincent C. Gerace; Pitman, NJ • Lawrence D. Gregory; Tulsa, OK • Sidney R. Hamby, Jr.; Arlington, TN • David E. Hansen; Orchard • Steve J. Hudson; Lake Benton, MN • Timothy E. Koch; Omaha • C. M. Layland; Des Moines, IA • Michael J. Martin; Shawnee, KS • Donn A. Morris; Wheatridge, CO • Richard M. Morrison, Jr.; Harrisburg, NC • Brian R. Olsen; LeMars, IA • Steven W. Pflantz; St. Louis, MO • James K. Phipps; Lakewood, CO • Jay Prier; Pacific Junction, IA • Myron C. Reed; Lawrence, KS • Allen J. Thompson; Duluth, GA • Janice E. Wilson; Wichita, KS • Gary L. Zahalka; Fargo, ND • Paul M. Zink; Wichita, KS • Norman E. Zuercher; Wichita, KS. Environmental: Jeffrey B. Seagrist; Barrington, IL. Mechanical: Bradley S. Alm; Denver, CO • Craig A. Cattellino; Littleton, CO • Kevin K. Herbert; North Royalton, OH • Gregory D. McFarland; Lincoln • Garrick F. Mitchell; Denver, CO • Panyala N. Reddy; Des Moines, IA • Robert E. Robbins; North Berwick, ME • Henry B. Rohwer; Omaha • Clive Samuels; Princeton, NJ • Matthew J. Sitzmann; Carrollton, TX • James A. Tribble; Charlotte, NC. Structural: Azarnoosh Ashrafzadeh; St. Louis, MO • James L. Atwood, Jr.; Knoxville, TN • Mark C. Mainridge; Lakewood, CO • Steven W. Schaub; Scottsdale, AZ.

## Temporary Engineer Permits

Clyde Wesley Bragg, Jr. (Electrical); Richmond, VA; Expires 10/1/2003 • Randy Lee Buth (Mechanical); Fargo, ND; Expires 5/29/2004 • Don P. Empey (Civil); Kirkland, WA; Expires 2/28/2004 • Brent Lee Engelland (Civil/Structural); Hutchinson, KS; Expires 3/22/2004 • Roger W. Gallagher (Civil); Scottsdale, AZ; Expires 11/19/2003 • Leslie R. Gangel (Structural Engineering); Tulsa, OK; Expires 7/14/2004 • Larry Allan Ganzel (Civil); Vernon Hills, IL; Expires 5/30/2004 • Michael H. Garrett (Control Systems); Birmingham, AL; Expires 6/8/2004 • Ted Lewis Garrison (Structural); Marion, IN; Expires 8/5/2004 • Daniel P. Gill (Mechanical); Chandler, AZ; Expires 7/30/2004 • Jesse A. Grantham (Industrial); Denver, CO; Expires 10/30/2003 • John O. Grieshaber (Structural); Wilmington, DE; Expires 2/18/2004 • Philip J. Hargrave (Electrical); Little Rock, AR; Expires 6/18/2004 • Michael P. Henderson (Civil); Woodstock, GA; Expires 7/16/2004 • Kenneth W. Hilton (Mechanical); Casper, WY; Expires 2/11/2004 • James F. Kelley (Civil); Theodore, AL; Expires 11/25/2003 • Mark Jeffrey Kemp (Mechanical); Houston, TX; Expires 2/27/2004 • Richard Leo John Kluzak (Electrical); Wayzata, MN; Expires 7/7/2004 • Richard Leo John Kluzak (Electrical); Wayzata, MN; Expires 4/28/2004 • James W. Martin (Civil); Bismarck, ND; Expires 10/4/2003 • Irwin H. McCumber (Mechanical); Richmond, VA; Expires 10/7/2003 • Thomas Joseph McGowan (Civil); Shawnee, KS; Expires 1/4/2004 • John E. Page (Civil/Structural); Florissant, MO; Expires 2/11/2004 • Calvin Richard Rooker (Electrical); Tucson, AZ; Expires 9/3/2004 • Kevin J. Schilling, Sr. (Electrical); Casper, WY; Expires 2/11/2004 • Barry Alan Smith (Electrical); Chesterfield, MD; Expires 5/12/2004 • Scott E. Smith (Mechanical); Newton, KS; Expires 11/7/2003 • Bradley David Smoak (Civil); Greenville, SC; Expires 2/21/2004 • Rebecca Lance Svatos (Environmental); Iowa City, IA; Expires 4/15/2004 • Brian O. Thompson (Fire Protection); Windsor, CO; Expires 12/17/2003 • Gary M. Trusty (Mechanical); Little Rock, AR; Expires 2/29/2004 • Jack Edward Tumilty (Mechanical); Tulsa, OK; Expires 7/14/2004 • Ralph M. Wallem (Civil); Huntingburg, IN; Expires 10/9/2003 • Jody C. Warren (Electrical); Greer, SC; Expires 10/31/2003.

## Deceased Licensees

**Architects:** None.

**Engineers:** Jeffrey A. Chapman; Scottsdale, AZ; 6/22/2003 • Charles F. Craft; Roca; 6/24/2003 • Oliver Irvin Ness; Omaha; 7/10/2003 • Gerald L. Petersen; Omaha; 4/11/2003 • Verne O.M. Traudt; Lincoln; 8/21/2003.



## Sunny and cool, thin clouds.

In his drab gray overcoat,  
unbuttoned and flying out behind,  
a stocky, bullet-headed owl  
with dirty claws and thick wrists  
slowly flaps home  
from working the night shift.  
He is so tired he has forgotten  
his lunchbox, his pay stub.  
He will not be able to sleep  
in his empty apartment  
what with the neighboring blackbirds  
flying into his face,  
but will stay awake all morning,  
round-shouldered and glassy-eyed,  
composing a poem about  
paradise, perfectly woven  
of mouse bones and moist pieces of fur.

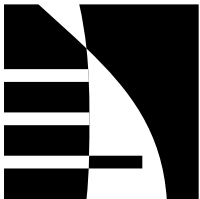
*Ted Kooser*

Jeff Kooser's tree house, near Garland. From *A Nebraska Portfolio*  
by Robert Hanna (Lincoln, NE, University of Nebraska Press, 1992).

From *Winter Morning Walks: one hundred postcards to Jim Harrison*  
(Pittsburgh; Carnegie Mellon University Press, 2000). Reprinted with permission.

**Robert L. Hanna** is a Nebraska Architect.

**Ted Kooser** is a Nebraska Poet.



### Nebraska State Board of Engineers and Architects

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